Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of November 4, 2002 to November 8, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Building Permits	September			In September, the value of building permits in Canada fell for the second consecutive month, as construction intentions retreated in both the residential and non-residential sectors. The total value of building permits taken out was $3.7 billion - down 6.9% from August, but still 14.9% above the level of September 2001. Alberta was one of four provinces to see an increase in the value of building permits (up 8.1% overall in September), fuelled by a 25.1% increase in the province's non-residential sector; Alberta's residential permits declined slightly in value (down 0.9 percent in September).
($ Millions)				
Alberta	603.1	8.1%	13.8%	
Canada	3720.1	-6.9%	14.9%	
Help-Wanted Index	October			Canada's help-wanted index fell for the third consecutive month in October, down 2.7% from September, and 9.4 % below its level of October 2001. Decreases were recorded in all provinces for which data were available. The largest declines were in Newfoundland (-6.2%), Prince Edward Island (-6.0%) and Alberta (-4.9%).
(1996 = 100)				
Alberta	130.0	-4.9%	-15.0%	
Canada	120.9	-2.7%	-9.4%	
U.S Gross Domestic Product	Q3 2002	(Qtr/Previous Qtr)		United States Gross Domestic Product grew by 3.1% in the third quarter, following an increase of only 1.3% the previous quarter. Consumer spending was a key contributor to this acceleration in GDP growth (real personal consumption expenditures increased by 4.2% in the third quarter). Consumer confidence, however, fell sharply in October. The Consumer Confidence Index fell to 79.4, down from 93.7 the previous month. This 14.3 point decline was the largest month-to-month decline in the past 12 years, and brought U.S. consumer confidence to its lowest level since November 1993.
($ billions)	9,465.2 [a]	3.1% [b]		

[a] Annualized Real GDP, 3rd Qtr.
[b] Annualized growth, real GDP